

Application No.: 09/974040Case No.: 56685US002**REMARKS**

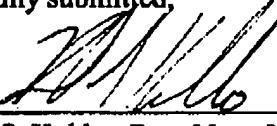
With this response, an earnest effort has been made to respond to all issues raised in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. The Examiner was correct to note that claim 1 had apparently been amended: the limitations of "having average effective diameters of less than 20 microns and transverse aspect ratios of from 1.5:1 to 20:1" had been accidentally omitted from the claim in the last response. Applicant's Agent regrets the error. Claims 50-53 are now correctly listed. In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

April 28, 2005

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